July 15, 2010

WASHINGTON D.C. – Today, U.S. Congressman Charlie Melancon (LA-03) made the following statement in response to reports from BP that the oil leak in the Gulf has been stopped for the first time since April:

"I am cautiously hopeful that BP has finally stopped the oil from gushing into our Gulf. If the cap holds, this will be a turning point in our recovery from this disaster. After enduring 86 days of this catastrophe, we will finally be able to move forward with cleaning up the oil and repairing the damage.

"The recovery will take years, but Lousianians will never stop working to make this right. And I will keep fighting to hold BP fully accountable and ensure they pay for every dollar of damage they've caused."

Congressman Melancon represents in Congress the areas of coastal Louisiana most directly affected by the oil leak, including Plaquemines, St. Bernard, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Mary and southern Jefferson Parishes. The Deepwater Horizon platform was located 50 miles off the coast of Louisiana's Third Congressional District.

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